

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 11 through 20 were previously cancelled. Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been amended herein. All of the pending claims are presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please enter these claims as amended.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method of insulating a rocket motor case loaded with a solid propellant, the method comprising:

preparing insulation from a composition comprising a cross-linkable liquid polymer and carbon fibers, the composition including the cross-linkable liquid polymer in a sufficient concentration to permit the carbon fibers to be dispersed into the composition by mixing under substantially solvent-free conditions;

curing the composition to form the insulation;

shaping the insulation into a sheet; and

insulating the rocket motor case with the sheet of insulation.

2. (Previously presented) A method of insulating a rocket motor case loaded with a solid propellant, the method comprising:

preparing insulation from a composition comprising a cross-linkable EPDM terpolymer and carbon fibers, the cross-linkable EPDM terpolymer comprising a cross-linkable liquid EPDM terpolymer in a sufficient concentration to permit the carbon fibers to be dispersed into the composition by mixing under substantially solvent-free conditions;

curing the composition to form the insulation; and

insulating the rocket motor case with the insulation.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein insulating the rocket motor case comprises applying the insulation to an interior surface of the rocket motor case and interposing the insulation between the interior surface and the solid propellant.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein 100 weight percent of the ~~crosslinkable~~ cross-linkable EPDM terpolymer in the composition consists of the ~~crosslinkable~~ cross-linkable liquid EPDM terpolymer.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein at least about 95 weight percent of the ~~crosslinkable~~ cross-linkable EPDM terpolymer in the composition consists of the ~~crosslinkable~~ cross-linkable liquid EPDM terpolymer.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein at least about 90 weight percent of the cross-linkable EPDM terpolymer in the composition consists of the cross-linkable liquid EPDM terpolymer.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein preparing the insulation comprises mixing the composition in a vertical-blade mixer-~~or~~ or a sigma-blade mixer.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein at least about 50 weight percent of the ~~crosslinkable~~ cross-linkable EPDM terpolymer in the composition consists of the ~~crosslinkable~~ cross-linkable liquid EPDM terpolymer, and further wherein ~~said preparing of~~ preparing the insulation comprises mixing the composition in a sigma-blade mixer.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the composition comprises dry ingredients, and wherein ~~said preparing of~~ preparing the insulation comprises mixing the composition under conditions in which the composition comprises not more than about 5 weight percent of volatile solvent based on the dry ingredients in the composition.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~said preparing of~~ preparing the insulation comprises mixing the composition in the absence of any volatile solvent.

11.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising shaping the insulation into a sheet prior to insulating the rocket motor case.